DOCKET NO.: MSFT-3017/307734.01
Application No.: 10/828,947
Office Action Dated: April 19, 2007

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for analyzing test results, comprising:

reading test result data corresponding to ~~at least two~~ test failures;

wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

determining a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

determining at least one related test failure corresponding to a second failed operation, wherein said ~~second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed operation~~ at least one related test failure comprises a set of failure characteristics in common with said representative test failure;

parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and

linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said method is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said test result data identifies a computer processor associated with each test failure, and further comprising including computer processor identification in said list of operating systems.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising exposing said at least one representative test failure through a Graphic User Interface ("GUI").

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, further comprising marking said at least one representative test failure in said GUI as an expected failure.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, further comprising deemphasizing said at least one representative test failure in said GUI with respect to any unexpected failures.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium bearing instructions <u>for</u> automated test result analysis, comprising:

      instructions for reading test result data corresponding to at least two test failures;

      wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

      wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

      instructions for determining a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

      instructions for determining at least one related test failure corresponding to a second failed operation, wherein said ~~second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed operation~~ <u>at least one related test failure comprises a set of failure characteristics in common with said representative test failure</u>;

      instructions for parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and

      instructions for linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for classifying test results, comprising:

      extracting data from a test result file, wherein said test result file identifies a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

      comparing said data to failure characteristics stored in a database; and

      linking an operating system identification from said test result file to said failure characteristics if said data from a test result file matches said failure characteristics.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, further comprising marking properties of test result files to be ignored during said comparing.

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10. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said failure characteristics is an abstract characteristic that can be matched by a variety to data from a test result file.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 8, further comprising adding new failure characteristics to said database if said data from a test result file does not match said failure characteristics, wherein said new failure characteristics correspond to said data from a test result file.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising emphasizing said new failure characteristics in a GUI with respect to failure characteristics that are not new.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, further comprising marking failure characteristics to indicate that a failure they represent is expected.

15.-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A method for classifying test results, comprising:

extracting data from a test result file, wherein said test result file identifies a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

comparing said data from a test result file to failure characteristics stored in a database, wherein first data that identifies a test operation is used in said comparison and second data that identifies a test scenario comprising at least an operating system identifier is not used in said comparison; and

if a match is discovered from said comparing, identifying said data from a test result file and said failure characteristics as a single failure in a Graphical User Interface (GUI), and adding said operating system identifier to a list of operating system identifiers associated with said single failure.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein said comparing is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.

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24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, further comprising cross-referencing said list of operating system identifiers such that it is accessible through said GUI from said single failure.

25.– 26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said data from a test result file is in Extensible Markup Language ("XML") format.